

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 151171  
ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 EB-07 ACDA-07 OES-07 NASA-01 ERDA-05 L-03  
PRS-01 /073 R

DRAFTED BY OASD/ISA/FMRA:LCDR LANDEN;PM/ISO:CCORDER:DME  
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ARA/RPP:COL QUIGG

-----129913 292036Z /61

R 291548Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
INFO SECDEF/OASD/ISA/FMRA  
HQ USAF/XOXXI  
HQAFC ANDREWS AFB MD/FA  
4950TW WPAFB/DOMM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 151171

E.O. 11652:ADS-DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: MILI, MX

SUBJECT:FOREIGN OPERATING RIGHTS - ADVANCED RANGE  
INSTRUMENTED AIRCRAFT (ARIA)

1. THE US AIR FORCE HAS A REQUIREMENT TO SUPPORT THE LAUNCH  
OF SIX GLOBAL NAVIGATION DEVELOPMENT SATELLITES (NDS) WHICH  
WILL PROVIDE A WORLD-WIDE SHIP AND AIRCRAFT NAVIGATION  
SYSTEM. REQUEST YOU SEEK GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO APPROVAL FOR  
THE OPERATIONS DETAILED BELOW.

2. DURING THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1977 TO DECEMBER 1979, THE US  
WILL LAUNCH SIX SATELLITES INTO SUB-SYNCHRONOUS ORBIT AT  
10,900 NAUTICAL MILES FROM EARTH. WHEN COMPLETED IN  
1984, THIS SATELLITE SYSTEM WILL PROVIDE A GLOBAL  
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PAGE 02 STATE 151171

POSITIONING AND NAVIGATION CAPABILITY FOR USE BY BOTH  
SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT. IN ORDER TO INSURE SUCCESS OF THE  
LAUNCH, ORBITAL INSERTION AND ORBIT PHASES OF THE OPERATION,  
THE USAF PROPOSES TO STAGE A SINGLE ARIA AIRCRAFT FROM  
ACAPULCO, MEXICO TO PROVIDE TELEMETRY SUPPORT. THE ARIA  
AIRCRAFT (BOEING 707 TYPE) ARE SPECIALLY EQUIPPED RANGE  
AIRCRAFT WHICH RECORD AND RETRANSMIT TELEMETRY DATA FROM

THE LAUNCH VEHICLE AND SATELLITE BACK TO THE WESTERN TEST RANGE AT VANDERBURG AFB, CALIFORNIA IN REAL TIME. THE AIRCRAFT WOULD DEPART WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO THREE DAYS

PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED LAUNCH, AND PROCEED TO GENERAL JUAN N. ALVAREZ INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ACAPULCO, MEXICO. THE DEPLOYMENT TO ACAPULCO WOULD BE VIA ESTABLISHED AIRWAYS, ENTERING THE MERIDA UTA/UIR AT ABBOT (23N09537W). ON LAUNCH DAY, THE AIRCRAFT WOULD DEPART ACAPULCO AND FLY TO ITS MISSION SUPPORT POSITION WHICH IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 1200 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF ACAPULCO. WHEN THE SPACECRAFT IS LAUNCHED, THE EQUIPMENT INSTALLED ON BOARD THE ARIA AIRCRAFT WOULD RECORD AND RELAY THE LAUNCH VEHICLE TELEMETRY DATA TO THE WESTERN TEST RANGE. THE AIRCRAFT WOULD THEN RETURN TO ACAPULCO AND REMAIN OVERNIGHT PRIOR TO RETURNING TO WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB. NO TESTING WOULD OCCUR IN OR OVER MEXICAN TERRITORY.

3. THE AIRCREW WOULD CONSIST OF A MAXIMUM OF SEVEN OFFICERS, FOURTEEN ENLISTED PERSONNEL AND TWO DOD SPONSORED CIVILIANS. ALL WOULD BE US CITIZENS AND WOULD POSSESS VALID IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIALS AS LISTED IN THE USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE. AN EXACT AND COMPLETE CREW LIST AND AIRCRAFT DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR EACH DEPLOYMENT WOULD BE FORWARDED NOT LATER THAN TEN DAYS PRIOR TO DEPLOYMENT. THE PLANNED LAUNCH SCHEDULE IS LISTED

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PAGE 03 STATE 151171

BELOW. NUMEROUS DELAYS IN SATELLITE DEVELOPMENT MAY CAUSE DELAYS IN LAUNCH SCHEDULES, THEREFORE, THIS SCHEDULE IS HIGHLY INDEFINITE.

NUMBER TEST NUMBER APPROXIMATE LAUNCH DATE

1 --- NDS 8700 -- OCT 77  
2 --- NDS 1860 -- JAN 78  
3 --- NDS 4610 -- APR 78  
4 --- NDS 0730 -- INDEF 78  
5 --- NDS 8340 -- INDEF 78  
6 --- NDS 1988 -- INDEF 79

4. THE ARIA AIRCRAFT WOULD REQUIRE HIGH FREQUENCY (HF) RADIO CONTACT WITH COMMAND AND CONTROL AUTHORITIES AT WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB WHILE ON THE GROUND AT ACAPULCO. AUTHORIZATION FOR HF FREQUENCIES WOULD BE OBTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFM 100-31 SUBSEQUENT TO PROJECT APPROVAL.

5. ALL ASPECTS OF THIS PROJECT ARE UNCLASSIFIED AND COPIES OF DATA TAPES AND THE FINAL ANALYSIS THEREOF WOULD BE RELEASABLE TO HOST AUTHORITIES UPON REQUEST. IN

ADDITION, THE AIRCRAFT COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR STATIC DISPLAY TO SELECTED SMALL GROUPS (15 OR LESS) OF HOST OFFICIALS AND SCIENTISTS. THE MOST APPROPRIATE TIME TO SCHEDULE SUCH TOURS WOULD BE AFTER THE MISSION SUPPORT DUE TO THE CRITICAL EQUIPMENT CALIBRATION. THE AIRCRAFT

ITINERARY COULD BE ADJUSTED TO PROVIDE STATIC DISPLAY AT MEXICO CITY IF DESIRED.

6. THIS PROJECT IS PART OF A CONTINUING EFFORT TO DEVELOP A HIGHLY RELIABLE AND EASILY MAINTAINED GLOBAL NAVIGATION SYSTEM. THIS RESEARCH AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN THIS AREA WILL ULTIMATELY LEAD TO WORLDWIDE COMMERCIAL SYSTEMS WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL NATIONS. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 STATE 151171

THE INCREASED ACCURACY OF THIS TYPE OF NAVIGATION SYSTEM WILL RESULT IN GREATER AIRCRAFT SAFETY AND SHIP COLLISION AND GROUNDING AVOIDANCE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** AS IFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** MILI, OCLR, TSPA, MX, US  
**To:** MEXICO  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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